United States Court of Appeals Fifth Circuit

## FILED

IN THE UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE FIFTH CIRCUIT

**April 4, 2007** 

Charles R. Fulbruge III Clerk

No. 06-50757 Conference Calendar

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff-Appellee,

versus

VICTOR MENDOZA-HERNANDEZ,

Defendant-Appellant.

Appeal from the United States District Court for the Western District of Texas

USDC No. 2:05-CR-929-ALL

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Before JONES, Chief Judge, and HIGGINBOTHAM and CLEMENT, Circuit Judges.

PER CURIAM:\*

Appealing the Judgment in a Criminal Case, Victor Mendoza-Hernandez raises arguments that are foreclosed by <u>Almendarez-Torres v. United States</u>, 523 U.S. 224, 235 (1998), which held that 8 U.S.C. § 1326(b)(2) is a penalty provision and not a separate criminal offense. The Government's motion for summary affirmance is GRANTED, and the judgment of the district court is AFFIRMED.

<sup>\*</sup> Pursuant to 5TH CIR. R. 47.5, the court has determined that this opinion should not be published and is not precedent except under the limited circumstances set forth in 5TH CIR. R. 47.5.4.